

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9029

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FOR EUR/SOV

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, UR, US

SUBJ: US-USSR WORLD OCEAN AGREEMENT: MARTINEAU VISIT TO USSR

1. EMBASSY REPORTED TO METALNIKOV OF SCST DR. MARTINEAU'S STRONG PREFERENCE FOR FEB. 8-12 TIMING FOR VISIT. METALNIKOV REMAINED ADAMANT THAT FEBRUARY TIMING IS QUITE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ALL CONCERNED ON SOVIET SIDE. AT SCIOFF'S REQUES, METALNIKOV (WHO HAD BEEN UNAVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS DUE TO ILLNESS) JAN. 22 RECONFIRMED IMPOSSIBILITY OF RECEIVING DR. MARTINEAU IN FEBRUARY. METALNIKOV ADDED HIS REGRET AT INCONVENIENCE THE POSPONEMENT OF VISIT WOULD POSE FOR DR. MARTINEAU. METALNIKOV FURTHER REQUESTED THAT HE BE INFORMED ASAP OF DR. MARTINEAU'S CHOICE OF ALTERNATE DATES ANY TIME AFTER MARCH 15 WOULD BE POSSIBLE, AT DR. MARTINEAU'S CONVENIENCE.

2. FYI: WITHIN PAST TEN DAYS, SOVIETS HAVE SOUGHT TO POSTPONE OTHER PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED VISITS TO USSR BY US DELEGATIONS FROM FEBRUARY TO SECOND HALF OF MARCH OR LATER. NO REASON HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR POSTPONEMENT OTHER THAN UNAVAILABILITY OF SOVIET PERSONNEL IN FEBRUARY. EMBASSY PRESUMES UPCOMING PARTY CONGRESS ENTERS INTO SOVIET DECISIONS TO SEEK POSTPONEMENTS OF PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED VISITS. STOESSEL

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